HONGKONG, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1887.

ARMED BURGLARS IN HONGKONG.

BLACKHEAD & Co. at Tsim Tsa-tsui Point, and well organised gang of accomplished which effects a radical change in the manner to Kiang-bung would afford access to the latterly more so than ever. At one time it Kowloon, on Sunday morning last would at and during thieves in the Colony, who plan in which insolvency is to be regarded in its important markets of south-west Yunnen, was thought it would precede the establish any time be a startling occurrence. The their raids so exrefully and secretly that relation to the community. This change which cannot be tapped by way of Tonquin. ment of a line of hail steamers from British fact that a raid can be deliberately planned they are often able to baffle all inquiry may be best set out by quoting from the French will push on their pro- Columbia, and now that is an accomplished and successfully carried out, as this was, is and successfully dispose of their plunder, statement of "objects and reasons":- posed railway is earnestly to be hoped, for fact, the telegraph will not lag far behind. of itself sufficient to open the eyes of the Those men do not confine their depredations "Speaking generally, the present Ordinance, there is room enough for all, and a line to Two schemes have been projected, and somer community to the dangers which exist, if to Hongkong; they concert armed attacks which was based on the English Act of 1869, Lac-kai would be of immense value to trade or later one cable will certainly be laid. hardly suspected or appreciated before. It upon villages and towns on the mainland, of views insolvency as a matter affecting only in general, though we cannot but recognise is only now and ugain we get such rude re- which the recent bold and successful locting the creditors, and the Ordinance is drawn on that the French by their stupid fiscal policy minders of the possibilities of predatorial of the Cheung Fat pawashop at Nam-tau is the assumption that the matter can be safely are going the way to minimise the adviolence as this Kowloon burglary, and it is the most recent example. Whether these left in their hands, that self-interest will lead | vantages of their new acquisition to themseldom that such attacks are made on Euro- men belong to the Tried Society or not, we them to realise the estate in the most econo- solves as well as to others. At present the penns. The column Wing Bult Street are unable to say, but their organisation is mical and beneficial manner, and that the courses of trade routes in China are deterraid in September, 1878, was made on a Chi- evidently very complete, and they are in pos- sense of personal injury will prompt them, mined more by freedom from taxation than nese hong, and most of these delicate atten- session of sufficient capital to fit out an expedi- in cases where the debtor has been guilty of by physical considerations, and if the French tions, it must be confessed, are paid by Chi- tion, rescue their fellows, or defend an action. fraud, to bring him to justice. This system by heavy taxation seek to drive away from nese maranders to their own countrymen. Until this gang is broken up there can be proved a failure in England, and, as might Tonquin all but French trade there will to light a curious and at the same time This has been due hitherto, probably, to little security in the colony, and the neigh- have been expected, in a mixed community be little inducement for the making the circumstance that the robbers were bouring mainland must continue exposed to like this has been a still greater failure, of a vailway, for it is certain that less likely to meet resistance from Chi. raids in which neither life nor property is re- This Bill, therefore, proposes that bankrupt- French trade alone would not support reigners possessed revolvers. Formerly, danger these ruffians are to the Colony, it is offence requiring investigation on the part forward with the preliminary surveys for pare Chamber to the Saigon Chamber of The sub-section gives the definition of a new too, the Celestial robber when he "went a most annoying that they should be able to of the State. This investigation will be made | their lines. M. de Maas, ingenieur en chef | Commerce for assistance in drawing up a burgling," who content to arm bimself with make the place their headquarters for opera- by the Court with the assistance of the Offi- des ponts et chausees, arrived in Tonquin line in the court with the assistance of the Offi- des ponts et chausees, arrived in Tonquin line information is spear or knife, which he only used when the tious directed against the mainland. It is cial Assignee. At present, the control of by the last mail and is to make surveys in opportunity to silence a victim was safe and | tolerably certain that Hongkong suffers in the Court over bankrupts is merely nominal. | conjunction with M. Fanquier. an engitempting. But this is the age of enlighten- this way more from her contiguity to the Few cases of bankruptcy are ever brought to linear of the public works department. Acment, and among other marks of progress province of Kwangtung than the latter does a legitimate conclusion. The creditors, cording to the Avenir, the first line to be must now be reckoned the adoption of the from Hongkong becoming a refuge for weary of waiting, in most cases accept a made will be one from Hanoi to the sea via revolver as a weapon of offence by the Chi. | criminals; but, with our superior Police small composition and write off their loss. | Dap-cau, Seven Pagodas, and Hon-gay, thus nese burglar. This is certainly not a cheer- system, we ought to be able to hold the In future, the control of the Court will be a connecting the capital with the coal district ful or reassuring symptom, but it is one of criminals in better check and prevent the real one. It will not be possible without the of Along Buy and the future port for ocean which account must be taken, and precautions island being made a base for robberies on special leave of the Court, to withdraw vessels. This, of course, would be merely a used accordingly. The burglary at Tsim | the mainland. Although the Police Force con- bankruptcy proceedings after they have once | local line, and hardly has much bearing on Tea-tsui on the 28th ult. showed that Chi- tains some experienced detectives, who have been commenced, and, so far as legislation | the question under consideration, except that nese criminals have sufficient capital to rendered good service, its efficiency in this can effect it, provision has been made for the it would be a commencement of railway equip themselves for a raid, that they know respect leaves much to be desired, proof of thorough investigation of the affirs of every enterprise in the country through which a how to use revolvers, and that they have no which is afforded by the failures to scenre bankrupt, and his punishment if he is found portion of Yunnan must be reached. It may hesitation in using them. The cowardly and convictions. Were there less chance of to be guilty of fraudulent practices." be remarked, in passing, that such a line brutal manner in which Mr. LASSEN was escape from discovery and arrest, the The existing law in Hongkong, like that at would most probably mean the decadence of fired at after he had been disabled by cuts criminals would be unable to combine so Singapore, views, insolvency as a matter Haiphong as a port and the transfer of its from a knife is proof that these robbers would l have no scruples in taking life, more especial. often turn informers. More encouragement remembered that the late Sir John Smale, however, to push on a line from Hanoi to Lacly if they met with resistance. The danger should, we think, be given by the Govern- when Chief Justice, gave full effect to this kai, and we gladly accept the assurance of to which residents in the outskirts are really ment to smart officers and men in the ser- view, and, in cases where estates had passed | the Courrier that the intention is something exposed is brought unpleasantly home to vice. Promotion is naturally slow, but into the hands of the official assignee through more than a dream. We hope that the line them by this daring burglary.

premises of Messrs. Blackhead & Co. are Recluded spot, out of the beat of the Knwupon the place by the knowledge that culties. they would not be likely to be disturbed by the Police, and that they would have to difficulty in overpowering any resistance that might be made. over there is reason to believe that they were aware that a large booty would reward their enterprise. But do not someserve to put the community as well as the who could not make up his mind on which Police on the slett and thus avert any side to get down. repetition of last Sunday's outrage.

SERIOUS CRIME IN HONGKONG.

It may be some satisfaction, perhaps, to burglaries have this year, we imagine, been a heavy crop of bankruptcies before putting point on the Rangoon-Tuongoo railway via Shanghai contemporary points out, probably more frequent. On the 18th ult. a band of the law into proper condition-and it is ad- Shuaygyeen and Zimme to Kiang-hung, and be a line from Burman through Yunnan and robbers entered the Tye Loong pawnshop, mitted that it is very unsatisfactory in its subsequently on to Ssu-mao, or some other Szechuen, and we may also hope in a few oils.

CAOL V. POLICE BARRACKS

EXTENSION. the beats is too great, a reinforcement of the Catholic Cathedral, but it would be a long be appointed here, but it is certainly Mr. Conquerous says that this can only be number of constables on duty in the out. leap for the flames to reach the Inspect not necessary to take that course now, made use of to serve the extreme eastern lying suburbs of the city. Robbers found tors' quarters, and the dilapidated bunga, the inadequacy of the existing law have side of Yunnan, which is poor. Mr. Cox. in possession of arms should be visited with lows are low structures unlikely to take ing been recognised for many years past. It queous only explored one of the branches of the most stringent application of the law fire and still less likely to communicate it is true the inconvenience has been less felt the stream, but assuming that he is correct and if that law is not sufficiently rigorous to The utilizing of the ground would there. since Mr. Acknown effected a clearance of in his estimate of its value as a trade route meet the case, then it would be the duty fore increase rather than diminish the the enormous mass of arrears he found on for Yunuan, it must be borne in mind that of the Legislature to supply the remedy, risk of fire, but that is a consideration his appointment as Registrar of the Supreme it passes through Kwangtung and Kwangsi, Residents in outlying districts may also which cannot be allowed much weight, for it Court and placed the working of his depart- and with steam communication and a pure do something on their part. Why should would be too obviously absurd to allow ment on the satisfactory footing it now customs service it could not fail to develop a they not organise some system of signals ground to lie idle in order to avoid the risk of stands. But the fact remains that the large amount of traffic. The traffic is already in case of attack? Another point of the houses that might be built upon it being law is based on radically wrong principles, considerable; that it is not greater is due importance, and one to which the foreign re. burnt down. The ground was purchased principles which have been thrown over in rather to the exactions to which trade is subsidents cannot may too great attention, is to originally for the extension of the Police England and which our neighbours in the jected than to the difficulties of navigation or take care to employ no person as a domestic Barracks, and Captain DEANE complains that Straits Settlements have also found it ne- the poverty of the country through which whose antecedents will not bear investiga- the want of increased accommodation is now cessary to discard. tion, and that investigation should be greatly felt. We believe, however, that the thorough and not perfunctory, as it too Government has no intention now of using frequently is. A very large proportion of the ground for that purpose. The latest the burglaries committed on foreign bouses, idea we have heard formulated in rehave been distinctly proved to have been spect to it is the erection thereon of perpetrated either with the connivance or at new Police Courts with quarters in the the instigution of dishonest servants or re- upper storeys for the Magistrates. Chief tainers. The reason for this regrettable Clerk, etc., the site of the present Pofact is not far to seek. We have but to lice Courts being utilized for the extension remember the class from which the servants of the gaol. But then there looms in the are drawn, and their associations. The distance the prospect of a new gaol on a domestic may be raised, his ideas expanded, different site altogether, and if we are to bis clothes and bearing vastly improved, but have a new gaol it would certainly be a mishis friends and connections remain the same, take to enlarge the present one and sacrifice perhaps take the downward road from emug. ground which might be better utilized for gling to crime, and become the tempters of Police Barracks. But if the present gaol their kindred in respectable and responsible were enlarged a new gaol would be unnecesemployment. How little do we know, as a sary, at all events for many years to come. rule, of the families from whence our Meanwhile both the Police and the Gaol audomestics have sprung! The foregoing re. | thorities are crying out for more room, there marks are made with no desire to create or is the ground waiting to be used, and the deepen alarm, but with the hope that they may Government sits like the man on the stile

THE AMENDMENT OF THE BANK-

RUPTOY LAWS. ever may have been the case last year, sum. But it is not necessary to wait for scheme for a railway, starting from a have been broken down. There will, as our

successfully, as the more timid spirits would affecting only the creditors, and it may be business to the new port. It is intended, brevet rank with increased pay might some- the neglect of the creditors to appoint a will be made quickly and that the French It may be urged that the Teim Tsa-tsui | times be given to the ordinary members of creditors' assignee, he (to put the matter in | will be wise in time and not kill by prohibithe Force for especial service, and a money a very mild way) evinced no disposition to like taxation the trade that should support gratuity in the case of detectives. Some in- facilitate the winding up. Of late years the line. But they must not flatter themducement, at all events, should be held out things have gone on more smoothly in this cives that they possess the only or the best for constables to distinguish themselves in respect, and in one or two notorious route. We have already referred to M were emboldered to make this raid work which has some perils and many diffi- cases the court has even used its powers Congunous's scheme, which for the richest of sentencing the bankrupt to imprisonment | part of the province offers distinct advantwhen he has been proved guilty of speculating lages. Two other schemes have recently been without means. But the offence has to be formulated. Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, in the of the most flagrant description before the National Review, advocates the construction In the recently published "extracts" from though the infliction of punishment in the 500 miles; Bangkok to Su-mao, 800 miles: the Police Report we find the following :- cases referred to no doubt exercised a whole- Su-mao to Canton, 800 miles, the total "The Roman Catholic Cathedral having some influence, tending to restrain within more estimated cost being thirteen millions aterwhat similar circumstances obtain more or been pulled down and a large number of moderate bounds speculation in shares and ling. From a commercial point of view such less over the rest of the peninsula, and houses being in the course of crection on the land, it has hardly had much effect in the a line would be invaluable, but the political also at Pokfordum and at the Peak? There site, the probability of a fire extending to matter of trading bankruptcies, and it is questions involved render its construction would, in all these cases, be a risk of the Central Station is much greater than none the less easy for a man who has played as one undertaking extremely improbable bringing down the Police constable on before, and the danger is materially increased ducks and drakes with his creditors' money though no doubt in the distant future, when duty upon them, but what could one or by the dilapidated state of the adjoining by reckless trading to go to the court and both China and Siam possess a network of even three constables do in presence of a bungalows which were purchased some six- come out whitewashed. The Bill introduced railways, this route will be realised by the band of ruffians armed with revolvers? The | teen years ago for the purpose of supplying at Singapore makes certain presumptions connection of the various systems. revolver is a great levetler, and half a dozen ground, so greatly needed for the extension intended to have the salutary effect Hour Hallerr also has a scheme for a reil-Chinese thieves thus armed would not as a of the Birracks. The want of accommodito of throwing on the bankrupt the onus way from Moulmein to Kiang-Hsen, on the rule be scared by a couple of our stout guar. Ition is now more felt than before, as the of proving that his bankruptcy was not Yunnan plateau, whence the line might be dians of the peace. It may be asked, in pre. Force is larger and fourteen men have ceased brought upon him by circumstances be- continued by China to Yunnan-fu and thence sence of this new danger, if resistance is not to receive quarters in the Markets." It is youd his own control; while the consequences to Szechuen and the Yangtsze valley. It is likely to be successful, what is to be done to characteristic of the wastefulness of Govern. of his failure to obtain a discharge will render | useful, in view of future possibilities, to on

provides gainst such an abruning contingency? ments that valuable land like that referred to it a matter of moment to a bankrupt, instead | courage "prospectors" to work out schemes How is the old feeling of security from rob. in the above should be kept lying idle for of, as at present, its being a matter of per- of this kind, but for the present they may hery and violence to be restored? As to the stateen years. The same thing happened feet judifference to him whether he obtains be dismissed as outside the region of praclatter question it may be doubted whether with regard to the ground purchased for the it or not. The Singapore Bill has been pre- tical developments, in view of the political such a feeling should be unduly fostered; Central School. We cannot, however, see pared in consequence of the report of a Com- difficulties involved. Meanwhile a line is it is always well to be prepared for the worst. the sequence of Captain DEANE's remarks on mission appointed in 1885 to consider the actually under construction to Monimein. and never wise to relax precautions against the question of the danger from fire. It is Bankruptcy Law of the Colony. The late whence it can be extended as time, circumdanger. The former question is not too true that a confligration amongst the Mr. Justice Snowden, when he occupied a stances, and inducements offer. But there readily solvable, but we would urgo upon houses fronting on Wyndham street and seat in the Legislative Council as Acting is also another route in which we in Hongthe Police Authorities increased vigilance. Pottinger-street is more probable now than Chief Justice, suggested, if we remember kong are more immediately interested, and if—as is not improbable—the extent of when the site was occupied by the Roman rightly, that a similar commission should viz., that by the great Chukiang river.

TRADE ROUTES TO WESTERN CHINA.

The Courrier d'Haiphong, in an article of which we publish a translation elsewhere, compares the relative advantages England and France possess in reference to the Yunnan trade from the territories occupied by them on the frontiers of south-western China. According to our contemporary, Tonquin is in

Queen's Road West, and gott off with about working at payment. A new Bankruptcy town on the border of Yunnan, where it years to see a cable from Vancouver or San \$96 in money, and no conviction has been Bill has recently been introduced in the Le- might connect with a railway to be construct. Francisco to Hongkong. The necessity for The armed attack on the premises of Messrs. secured. There would seem to be a large gislative Council of the Straits Settlements, ed by the Chinese. In any case, a railway such communication has long been felt, and

and knew that, as a rule, for spected. Apart from the nuisance and ex should be trusted as being prima facis an it. Our neighbours are, however, pushing

court will exercise its punitive powers. Al- of a railway from Moulmein to Bangkok, was made for so many years with regard to the Chinese native customs stations outside The Singapore Chamber of Commerce is,

with good ground, apprehensive that the new tariff will have a very prejudicial influence on the trade between that port and

the river runs. The opening up of this magnificent waterway is a subject which we hope the Chamber of Commerce will not cease to press on the attention of the British Legation at Peking.

THE KALGAN-KIACHTA TELEGRAPH AGREEMENT. In another column we reproduce from Sasughai contemporary an article on the agreement recently concluded between the much more direct communication with the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Tele. the Aunamites to purchase French goods. richest districts of Yuunan than is Burmah. graph Companies and the Chinese Imperial It therefore comes to this, that in return for But our contemporary makes a mistake in Telegraph Administration for an extension their eight million piculs of rice the Annaassuming that Bhame is the only point by of the latter's lines to Kalgan and Kiachta, which trade can penetrate Yuunan from thus giving the Chinese through telegraphic Burmah. If that were the case the argument communication from Peking overland to being dearer than those from Great Britain, would stand, and the long list of distances Europe and Great Britain. If the statements given by our contemporary for the journeys made in this article be correct, the Telegraph to various markets would show that there Companies deserve some credit for astute- imposition of differential taxation on goods was little hope of any great development of ness. That they know how to look after from other countries. That this is emitrade along those routes. But this exposure their own interests and carefully cherish nently unfair to the Annanites goes of the unfavourable situation of Bhame is no their monopoly are facts sufficiently well without saying; it is exacting tribute ments had been made which had been printed new thing. Mr. Colquinous, in his "Across known to the public out in the Far from them to enrich the manufacturers Chryss" says :- " Regarding the Bhamo East, who have to pay the high rates in France. The cause of the secesroute, the physical difficulties between Bha- now demanded. According to the writer sion of the United States from England was mo and Tali preclude all idea of this track referred to, the arrangement between an attempt by the British Government to ever serving the purpose of a governl trade the three companies is that there is to levy a tax on tea. The Annamites might without discussion. When the Public Health Bill is disposed of route to Yunnan. Mr. Baber has effectually be a uniform charge of two dollars per word with as much reason rebel against a tax on those who wish to look at the bright side of perhaps the Acting Attorney-General may disposed of this question in his most charm- by all routes, and that the foreign companies everything to learn from the Police Report find time to enter on the much needed work ing and luminous report of his journey, when are to pay the Chinese Imperial Telegraph will not do so, but it is inevitable that under fore the passing of this Ordinance, every person who for 1886-extracts from which were laid on of preparing a new Bankruptcy Act. When he was attached to the Grosvenor Mission. Administration the sum of Tls. 100,000, such crushing duties as have now been imfor 1886—extracts from which were laid on of preparing a new Bankruptcy Act. When he was attached to the Ground of the Logislative Council on the 2nd we speak of the work as much needed it is Having travelled over the ground, I would which amount they of course hope will be inst,—that there was a dicrease in the suminst,—that there was a dicrease in the sum of a custom a suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the suminst,—that there was a dicrease of at least four feet when the sumi ber of burglaries, robberies with violence rife of late. On the contrary, the colony has trade from Bhamo can never penetrate east competition. The Courier blames the Chi- The adoption of a Customs tariff will be reand piracy; but even this satisfaction must enjoyed for several years a period of almost of Tali. I believe myself that the only raison ness for making what it considers a short. cognised in future years as marking the be allowed on reading that there was an in- uninterrupted prosperity, landed property d'etre of this route is the fertile Taping val- sighted arrangement, as it believes rich commencement of its decadence, unless, increase of 84 cases or 1.37 per cent. in serious has been increasing in value, and the Cht. lev, which serves to attract a certain amount profits might have been secured from deed, the Government promptly recognises. crimes generally. It is also admitted that three nese trading community have flourished ex- of trade from Bhamo, and of this a very the European traffic, that is, provided the mistake it has made and reverses its murders took place, but in neither case was a ceedingly. But this very state of things small portion drags its way on to Tali. The the Chinese Telegraph Company obtained policy. Rice will continue to be exported, conviction secured. The paragraph in the may in some cases prove conducted to over Bhamo route probably always will answer running powers over the Russian lines but on more unfavourable terms than from report alluding to this fact says :- "Three trading and reckless speculation, and it is to for the requirements of the Taping valley on reasonable terms. But could they Siam and Burmah, and it is not improbable murders took place. Two blind mendicants befeared that a very slight restriction of credit and the extreme western portion of Yunnan have done this? Is not the influ-that a good deal of land may even go out of were attacked near Shaukiwan, and one or anything in the nature of a commercial which lies in the corner west of Yung-ching." ence of the Great Northern Telegraph cultivation altogether. murdered. The names of the assailants were crisis would find many Chinese houses un- The same writer says the configuration of Company sufficient in Russia to have prequickly known, but the men took refuge in able to stand reverses, and bankruptcy Yunnan is such that no single route can vented the Chinese from securing the right Chinese territory, not without, it is sup- would result. Even last year there was reach or top the whole of the province, and to send their messages over the Russian lines | HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, posed, the assistance of the Triad Society, a considerable increase in the number the portions which we wish to get at are on at any very advantageous rate? Of course In the two remaining cases the presumed cul- of 'adjudications, the figures being 6 the south-west and west. He says, further: they could not have prevented it altogether, prits were arrested, and of their actual guilt in 1885 and 22 in 1986. The Acting - The Songkoi river, which runs through a or doubtless they would have done so, and there was little moral doubt, but the evi- Registrar in his report, says :-- "A large part of Yunnan and falls into the Tonquin that they feared a possible competition is present:dence adducible was not deemed sufficiently number of the bankrupts were small traders Gulf, will, I believe, serve the purpose of apparent by the agreement entered into conclusive to justify a conviction at the Su- or clerks who took refuge in bankruptcy for attracting the trade which lies on the S.E. with the Chinese Telegraph Administrapreme Court." It is a long time since any the purpose of avoiding arrest and obtaining frontier, and also of the portion of the pre- tion. But are the two Telegraph Courconviction was obtained in this colony a discharge from their liabilities." When vince lying between Manghao and the cap- panies quite sure, after all, that they have for murder, and the failure of the Police we come to look into the accounts the ital. But it will never, I believe, answer not made a mistake? The public do not to bring the bomicides to justice has, it is amounts involved do not appear very slarm- any further purpose than the above." To like any monopolies, and they certainly do much to be feared, had a prejudicial effect ing, the total indebtedness being something reach the south-western part of Yun, not regard the Telegraph monopoly with on the criminal population, crimes of over \$170,000, and the amount restised by nan, which Mr. Conquerous considers the much favour. Long before the sixteen years violence becoming more frequent. What- the estates some 17 per cent. of that richest and most important, be gives a have expired, however, this monopoly will

THE FRENCH TARIFF IN INDO-

The correspondence recently published by the Singapore Chamber of Commerce with reference to the tariff recently put in force in the French Indo-China possessions brings serious state of affairs. The tariff adopted is that of France, but how this is to be applied to the local trade does not very clearly appear. An application by the Singathe local trade and local currency of Saigon. for at least some of the chief articles of import, proved fruitless. The letter, it appears, was handed to the "Directeur des Contribu. Buildings Act. tions Indirectes," who replied that it was impossible to state the duties on piece goods unless he had samples before him with particulars as to the length, breadth, and weight of the piece. The Singapore Chamber has worked out a table of the duties actually levied on an important class of Manchester Grey Cottons known to the trade as supers, and they say that neither from dimensions, weight, nor value of the goods is it possible to discover the principle on which they are taxed; it would almost appear they are valued without regard to any system whatever. In

the same way 6 lb. Grey T-Cloths, selling ! at Singapore at \$1.15 a piece have to come within the meaning of this section. cents. Bookfold White Shirtings worth at liberty to do so without coming within the \$1.20 pay 55 cents, and Matches which sell native consumption, worth \$41, pays about ever and ever. \$1. It is of course impossible to dispute the right of the French Government to impose a protective tariff if it seems good to it to do comes to. so, but it is disgraceful that accurate information regarding the tariff rates should not be accessible. That is the complaint that was made for so many years with regard to first floor and the basement still standing. from a corrupt and semi-civilized Government, but that such a complaint should have that of France seems almost incredible. The fesses that he cannot supply any information | take down half the building. on which merchants can determine for thembe, but says he must have before him actual samples, with particulars of length, weight. and breadth before he can say what amount the goods will have to pay. Such a state of creditable to French administration. Some and the roof he succeeds in doing so. confusion might perhaps be expected at first almost prohibitive of f reign trade was determined upon long ago, it has been under constant discussion ever since, and there has

Saigon. Hongkong will probably suffer still more, our trade with the neighbour ing French colony being larger than that Singapore. But the party that will suffer most will be the French colony itself. Without entering into the general Hon. C. P. Chater question of free trade versus protection it may be allowed that in new countries seeking to build up their own industries strong arguments in favour of protection may be advanced. But it is not for the pursoss of building up manufacturing industries in Cochin-China that the new duties have been imposed; the object is to benefit the manufacturer in France at the expense of the British and German manufacturers. Cochin-China is a rice exporting country, The quantity of that commodity exported last year was 7,949,394 piculs. In return for this the Annamites have taken to a large ertent foreign piece goods and varns, principally of British and in a smaller degree German origin. France has hitherto been unable to compete to any appreciable extent in this market. It has therefore been determined to drive out British and German goods by prohibitive taxation, and thereby to compel mites will have to take a smaller quantity of foreign goods, goods coming from France as shown by the fact of their having been unable to obtain a market without the their shirtings. Being meek Asiatics they

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 2nd inst. There were

His Excellency the Acting Governor Major General CAMERON, C.B. Hon. J. Russell. C.M.G., Acting Chief

Hon. F. STEWART, Acting Colonial Secretary:

Hon. E.J. ACKROYD, Acting Attorney-General Hon. A. Lister, Colonial Treasurer. Hon. J. M. PRICE, Surveyor-General. Hon. H. G. THOMSETT, Harbour Master. Hon. P. RYRIE:

Hon. J. BELL-TRYING. Hon. C. P. Chatee. Mr. J. M. GUTIEBEEZ, Acting Clerk of Coun-

Hon. Wong Shing.

The Acting Colonial Secretary presented the minutes of a meeting of the Finance Committoo held on 26th August, and moved that the sums of \$2,050 for the purchase of 50 cranks for the use of prisoners in Victoria Gaol, and \$120 the salary of a copying clerk to the Municipal

The Colonial Treasurer seconded. Carried.

THE POLICE REPORT. The Acting Colonial Secretary laid or the table "Extracts" from the Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for the year

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL. The Conneil resumed consideration, in Committee, of the Public Health Bill. The Acting Attorney-General said the sub-section 11 of section 3 had been ordered to

stand over for consideration. He new moved that consideration be resumed. half, such half to be measured in cubic feet. The Acting Attorney-General said this definition had been taken from the Metropolitan

Hon. C. P. CHATER-I proposed an amendment to this sub-section before, and I am inclined to be of the same opinion still—that instead of "one half, such half to be measured in cubic feet" i read "two-thirds."

Hon. J. Bell-Irving seconded. The SURVEYOR-GENERAL—Perhaps the hon. member would have no objection to explain to us the object of the amendment. I do not know whether I have correctly seized his wishes and

Hon. C. P. CHATER-As I said before, suppose I was inclined to make improvements in a three storeyed building and I take down the upper story. I have to take down the roof too. and by taking down the roof and upper storey l bear a duty equal to 45 cents a piece. therefore propose it should be two-thirds, so that White Shirtings worth \$3.50 pay \$1.30, if at any time the landlord should be inclined to White Madapolams worth \$1.30 pay 32 make improvements in his property, he should be

reading of this clause. His EXCELLENCY—You simply mean that the at Singapore at \$18 to \$20 a case have to lower storey should never be touched at all, and pay \$17 a case, and Beteinut, an article of that the old basement storey-should remain for

Hon, C. P. CHATER-No. Sir. His Excellency—That is very much what it

Hon. C. P. CHATER-The basement and first the Captain Superintendent of Police for the storey would together be more than half the year 1886 were laid on the table of the Legisla. building, whereas, the way I put it, two thirds would be the top storey and the roof, leaving the The Acting Attorney General-In that Hongkong, and it is what might be expected | case it would not be a new building. You say if you take down the top storey it is more than I tion of His Excellency the Officer Administering

half. No, it is not. That is an instance you the Government details of the Polico Establish to be made against such a Government as put. You say you wish it to be two-thirds, he ment, the list of Pensioners and the Criminal cause in case of a three-storeved building if you | Statistics for the year 1886 take down the upper storey and roof it would

selves what the duty on their shipments will may take down the roof and uppermost storey cases serious crimes so called) and minor offenand still his house being, reconstructed will not less, an increase of 34 cases or 1.37 per cent, is come within "a half." He may even go further found in serious crimes, and an increase of 2,027 and take half the remainder and then he will cases or 47.04 per cent, in minor offences, only come within the clause. So if my hon. I thing is, to say the least of it, highly dis- of the Bill when he takes off the upper storey mardered. The names of the assailants were

a free port, but it must be recollected that sidered some time and we determined to in- | maining cases the presumed culprits were arthe enforcement of a tariff intended to be sist on it in view of the modifications we were rested, and of their actual guilt there was little prepared to make in respect of the abutting of buildings against bill sides.

The Acting-Chief Justice-It seems to viction at the Supreme Court. me we cannot go wrong in following the Engbeen ample time to prepare a correct scale of lish Act. If they have found it necessary at home to make that definition for a new building I and the other serious crimes call for no special think that is a precedent for us.

wards. But what will become of a one storeyed [detective. house? Does the hon, gentleman wish the motion to go to a division P

Hon. C. P. CHATER-Yes. sir. The division resulted as follows.

The Harbour Master The Surveyor General The Colonial Treasurer The Acting Attorney-Genera The Acting Colonial Secretary The Acting Chief Justice

The amendment was therefore lost and the clause adopted as it stood. The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that with respect to sections 20 to 25, which had been reserved for further consideration, he proposed to substitute new sections numbered 20 to These had been printed and distributed. Section 20, which authorises inspection of premises, contains as amended the following provise:—"Provided that the Inspect-ing Officer shall not enter any house or upon any land which may be occupied at th time unless with the consent of the occupier thereof without previously giving the said ocoupier thereof six hours' notice in writing of his intention to do so." The succeeding sections deal with the procedure to be adopted in cases where nuisances are found to exist, and it is provided that if the notice of the Board is not complied with a prosecution may take place before a magistrate.

The sections were passed without discussion The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed that in the sections numbered in the original draft 27, 28, and 29 the provision for a minimum penalty of five dollars be struck out.

Section 30, providing that the penalties should be cumulative, was also struck out. The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said they now came to section 62. With respect to the and the succeeding sections in part 5 amend-

Section 62, which provides that an area of four feat shall be left between a building erected on land obtained from the crown after the passing of this Ordinance and the hill side was passed Section 63 as amended read as follows:—

63. —In the case of land obtained from the Crown beshall erect any new building on a site which has been should be initiated by the insurance Company excevated out of a slope or declivity shall leave a affected. This is assumed to apply to cases (1.)—The basement story of such new building intended for purposes other than human habitation,

properly ventilated from both streets, or,
(3.)—The basement wall abutting on the hillside is carried up to such a height above the level of the ground cutside as will admit of the construction in such abutting wall of one or more windows opening | pulled down and a large number of houses being from the basement storey directly into the external in the course of erection on the site, the proair or where this is impracticable the basement storey shall be lighted and ventilated by means of

grated openings or areas on Crown land, the permis-

(4.)—The basement story of such new building consists of one single shop the frontage of which shall face on a public thoroughfare and shall be open to the external air from the floor to the coiling the whole extent of such frontage.

purchased some sixteen years ago for the passed some sixteen ye His Excellency—We have ondeavoured to

meet the objectious previously raised in regard to places like Jervois street. We think we have met the difficulty and apparently hon gentlemen think so too, as they have no observations to make. I think you must all be perfectly aware that this is a very liberal concession. At the some time L'do not think it is a concession which departs from the principle of the Bill. I have Gasette:visited these houses myself. The depth is very ventilation into the street a step above. We nated MacDonnell Road.

joot most carefully and apparently by your The minutes of the last meeting were read and making no observations you are satisfied. The section was passed nem. con.

Section 65, which provides for sub-soi drainage, was also passed without discussion. In section 70, which provides for a backyard in the case of buildings on new Crown lots the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the words "and if such building be three storeyed, he shall cause the width of such backyard to be at Valuator, recommended by the Committee be least twenty feet" be struck out, leaving the voted, width of the backyard fifteen feet in the case of baildings of two or more storeys.

> The ameadment was adopted Hon. C. P. CHATER moved that consideration of clause 71, dealing with over-providing, be postponed till the next meeting. He said while he had been in that room he had received a lotter from an hon. Member of Council informing him that his absence was owing to no fault of his own. As some misunderstanding had taken place and as the hon, member spoke on this clause and proposed an amendment he would ask His Excellency to postpone further consideration of this clause until the hon, mem

ber was present. His EXCELLENCY—I have great pleasure in building and includes the following—" suck old this table we want full discussion, and if an hon. acceding to the hon, gentleman's request. At absent, I should be very sorry to go on with the Bill in his absence. The Acting Attorney-General said he

thought they had better postpone the whole of part 8, which all related to over-crowding. This was agreed to.

The Acting Attorney-General gave notice with reference to two new sections relating to over-crowding, which he said he would have printed and circulated. Progress was reported at clause 90.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that in the Bill as originally drafted it was intended the election of two members should be by the Chamber of Commerce and the Justices of the Peace. No provision was therefore made for a mode of conducting these elections and preparing lists. It had now been decided that two members should be elected by those ratepayers who were on the jury list and it was necessary to provide some regulations and machinery for carrying out the election. He would therefore at the next meeting propose a new section providing that all matters in connection with the election should be covered by rules which would be contained in a schedule

ADJOURNMENT. The Council adjourned till Friday next.

THE HONGKONG POLICE REPORT.

The following "Extracts" from the report of tive Council yesterday afternoon :---

Police Office, Hongkong, 22nd January, 1887. I have the honour to forward for the informa-

The Criminal Statistics show that 8.836 cases Directeur des Contributions Indirectes con- be a new house. But it would not. You don't were reported to the Police during 1886, being an increase of 2.061 cases or 30.42 per cent. or The SURVEYOR-GENERAL-My hon. friend the return for 1885. In the subdivision of these Three murders took place. Two blind men-

friend means simply keeping without the ambit dicants were attacked near Shaukiwan, and one ociekly known, but the men took refuge in Chi-The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL-One nese Territory, not without, it is supposed, the n the introduction of a customs service into other remark I wish to make. This was con- assistance of the Triad Society. In the two remoral doubt, but the evidence adducible was not deemed sufficiently conclusive to justify a con-... There was a decrease in the number of Burg-

llaries. Robberies with violence and Piracy: remark. In one case, however, gold coin to the His Excellency-I am not sure that the value of nearly one thousand pounds, that had words "three storeyed house" were mentioned | been stolen, was entirely recovered within three on the former occasion. It was assumed after. | days by the perseverance and ability of a Chinese

In the Minor Offences the principal noteworthy case was the prosecution of fitty one Chinese Constables. Information was given by a man that on a certain day some Constables would receive bribes for affording protection to Gambling Houses. The Officers deputed to inquire into the case brought conclusive evidence that some fifty men received money to the extent of about tan cents or three pence a piece, but they failed, which is not to be wondered at, considering the notorious had character of the informant to prove the object for which the money was paid The charge therefore dwindled down into one o receiving money without authority contrary to the Police Regulations. The conviction was quashed on appeal. In consequence of this case the security required for the good behaviour of Chinese Constables in the Land Force has been

increased from fifty to two hundred dollars. Breaches of the Opium Ordinance show an in crease of 686 cases. A number of search warrants have also been issued and returned without result The foreshore between No. 2 Station and East Point has silted up in a way that materially affects the utility of the Patrol Launches. The smallest launch drawing 4 feet 6 inches cannot now at low water go alongside Observation Point Pier, which should be lengthened, unless it is considered that it would be more advantageous and profitable to extend the Praya. I regret that the mortality among the Euro-

pean Police has been unusually heavy, no less than eight having died. In addition the cases of fever were especially numerous and severe The force was therefore in the Autumn from these causes and from the dismissal of the Chinese one hundred men below its effective strength. Whitfeild Station from the number of fever cases had to be temporarily abandoned. A Board held an inquiry into allegations concorning the Tried Society and evidence was given that tended to show that it exercised a dangerous influence, twelve of the head men have been banished from the Colony with a bene-

Fires are now of very frequent occurrence and interfere with the general Police work. owing to the Fire Brigade being so largely manned from this Force. It may be as well to recall to notice the fact that where premises are insured, the standing Government Orders to the Police are that any presecution for arson it appears that a grave danger to life has been allowed to spring up within the last few years by the multiplication of overhead telegraphic (2.)—Such building is situated at the intersection wires. It would be quite contrary to what of two streets, and the basement story thereof is might be expected, if in a bad typhcon these wires are not blown down so as to dangerously obstruct some of the main thoroughfares.

The Roman Catholic Cathedral having been bability of a fire extending to the Central Station is much greater than before, and the sion for the crection of such areas on Crown land | dauger is materially increased by the delapidated to be entirely at the discretion of the Governor in state of the adjoining bungalows which were purchased some sixteen years ago for the purto receive quarters in the Markets.

> ALTERATIONS IN THE NAMES OF STREETS IN VICTORIA AND KOWLOON.

The following alterations are published in the

The road which runs parallel to the Western small, in some cases only fifteen feet. Ventila- Praya at Kowlcon Point, on the eastern side of tion is very easily secured, in fact people of their | Marine Lots Nos. 9, 10, 11, 20, 21, 21a, and 22e own accord by means of a hole have made shall from henceforth be known as and desighave considered all your objections on the sub- The private lane running from Wyndhamstreet to the same street on the south side of the German Clab will from honesforth be known as and designed Mesons' Lane.

That is also of Caine-road, from the junction of Bonnam-road and Ladder-street, which runs in a north-westerly direction across Marketstreet until it meets. Hollywood-road, shall from henceforth cease to form part of or be known as Caine-road. So much of the said road as lies between the junction of Bonham road and Ladder-street, and the junction of Station-street and Upper Station-street shall from henceforth | Were it not that the liberties of the public are be known as and designated Caine Lane.

The remaining portion of the said road which | bill in Committee would hardly have been watched connects Upper Station-street and Hollywood- at all. If a single official member, even occaroad shall from henceforth form part of and be signally, voted against the Government propodesignated Upper Station Street.

That portion of Hollywood-road which runs from Gap-street in a north-easterly direction to Queen's-road shall from henceforth cease to be complaisance of the unofficial members can hardcalled Hollywood-road, but be known as and de- ly be wondered at when the President makes the signated Possession Street. The street known as Gap-street which runs

westwordly from Hollywood-road to Queen'sroad West shall from henceforth cease to be called Gap-street, but shall form part of and be designated Hollywood Road. The alterations in the numbers of houses ne-

cessitated by the above alterations are in the names of streets are then given in tabulated.

CHINA TRADEMS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The twenty-first ordinary meeting of the less upposition is as much to be desired. shareholders of the above Company was held | Probably the debate upon parts VIII. and IX at the head office, Hongkong, on the 5th | may be got through to-morrow, the bye-laws for instant for the purpose of receiving the the proper sanitary maintenance of common report of the directors and the statement of lodging houses not exciting much discussion, as accounts. There were present:-Messrs. L. the right of the Government to attach conditions Poesnecker (Chairman), J. Thurburn, M. Grote, to its licenses is undoubted. If lodging house

Woolley, S. Hancock, F. H. O. Wilson, W. cline their acquisition. Wicking, W. R. Loxley, H. Crawford, H. Harms, E. George, G. de Champeaux, A. O.D. Gourdin, A. E. Vaucher, H. Z. Just, &c.

vening the meeting, The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report has been in your hands for some time, and we will, therefore, with your permission, take it as read. The past year has been an extremely trying one, owing to the increased competition which has beset us at all points, and which still continues. It is, therefore with feelings of great satisfaction that the directors find themselves able to place before you so good a report. There is, it is true, a slight decrease in premia, but this is entirely due to the recent reduction in rates. Our losses, you will be pleased to notice, also shows falling-off, though to a much greater extent than the premia. The balance of working account is \$495,240.03, which enables the directors to recommend a dividend of 20 percent to shareholders, and a bonus of 17 per cent to contributors, leaving the substantial sum of \$245,270 to be carried to new account. The directors regretthat they are compelled to reduce the bonus to contributors from 20 per cent, which it has averaged for the past eight years, to 17 per cent, but in view of the increased competition to which the company is now subject it is imperative that we should make the amplest provision for unpaid losses and outstanding risks. A special branch of the company was opened in Sydney last autumn, and the management placed in the hands of Mr. Mitchell, who has had a long experience of Marine Insurance business in that

Mr. WOOLLEY-I should like to ask if there is any likelihood of the present ruinous rates caused by the competition of the home companies being brought to a close.

further on the report, but if any gentleman pre-

sent has any question to ask I shall be glad to

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid not at present. There being no further questions, the CHAIR MAN proposed that the report and statement of accounts be adopted

Mr. Just seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously. Mr. GROTE proposed, and Mr. GEORGE 86condel, that the appointments of Messrs. Moses and Poesnecker to be directors be confirmed.

Carried men, can

Mr. Moses proposed that Messrs. T. Arnold and H. U. Jeffries be elected as auditors for the The motion was seconded by Mr Just, and

carried without dissent. The Chairman having notified that the dividend warrants would be ready on the following day, the meeting closed.

THE MANSLAUGHTER AT WANCHA.

INQUEST ON THE BODY. An inquest was held on the 3rd instant a the Mortuary, by the Coroner, Mr. H. E. Wode house, on the body of a man named Li Atsoi, who was knocked down by a man named Lenng Amni on the 1st inst., and died the same day from injuries received. The following gentlemen served on the jury

-Messrs. F. Hahn, A. J. B. Scares, and

The following evidence was taken-Medical Staff. The body was admitted Dana describes the cabin boy doing upon a standing "Caveat" I say let us do our duty and to the Mortnary on the 5th Sept. It is shelf. If he does not sleep there he most prothat of a Chinese male adult of about forty bably must do so in the street. If you drive years of age. There was a contused wound him out he will go back so soon as you are gone. on the skull. I held a post mortem examina- Is the unfortunate owner of Chinese houses to tion on the body and found a fracture on the spend the night watches in making rounds and skull extending almost from ear to ear and clots | persecuting cook mates? of blood between the skull and the membranes | Clause 75 stipulates that the infant born yesand between the membranes and the brain. Death was due to the pressure of the I clots of blood on the brain. This result | do not get one tenth as many cubic inches under might have been occasioned by a blow on the the cloths by which their faces are habitually

Ganda Singh, gun-lascar in the Royal Artillery to twelve, noon, I was doing sentry guard duty at the Barracks. I saw the accused and other cooling carrying bales of cotton from the wharf to the godown. Some of the cotton fell from the bales into the street. I saw the accused put his load down and go up to deceased, seize him by the throat, and push him. Deceased fell backwards and his head fell against the stones of the side channel. I reported the matter to the Corporal Guard. The accused attempted to run away, but was seized by the Corporal, who detained him till the arrival of the Police. Accused pushed arbitrary, and I believe illegal. You might just upright at the time and fell backwards, full length. He was insensible after he fell. He last house he occupied.

was bleeding profusely from the head. as follows—I am stationed at the Macgregor Barracks. At noon on the 1st inst., I was in charge of the goard. 'The last witness made a report to me and I went across the street on the Pruva. I saw deceased fying on his back, his head on the stones of the side channel. I saw he was bleeding from the head and was insensible. I saw the accused in the act of running away. He was pointed out to me by the last witness and I

seised him and sent for the Police. Macgregor Barracks. I saw deceased picking up were promised full protection, and that their re. estimating the real amount of disability which great demand for it in Hongkong, the only cotton varn. I saw accused seize him by the ligion and customs should be respected. This throat and push him. Deceased fell backwards | Health Bill shows no respect for but total indif- encouraged by the conviction that these un- 1885 a fereign firm here made an attempt to hitting his head against the stone of the side of the secused and gave him in charge. The by the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. Offices). Mrs. Haefker had a policy for \$3,000, the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. The by the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. The by the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. The by the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. The by the Board shall be "deemed to be money paid portions of this Bill have been effectually op- Hongkong markets for Tientsin produce, such as There is also another and most valuable advantage. deceased did not strike accused.

noon on the 1stinst, a report was made by a Chinese | should it be deemed to be anything but what it constable, in consequence of which I went out. I is? went to the Praya and found deceased lying on As if this was not enough, clause 80 says visions were calculated to dissatisfy a very large which was abolished in 1868, had been revived in chantable. Damp bundles of braid have been large trade between China and Indo-Burmah would his back in the side channel with a pool of blood that "the provisions of the Crown Remedies section of our population, who, of late years, order to defray the expenses consequent on the packed with sand, the use of sulphur for bleaching round his head. He was insensible. The ac- Ordinance 1875 shell apply to the recover of have shown a strong desire to possess pro- attempts made to subdue and civilise the ab- tends to not the material, in some cases the dyes cused was in the custody of a Sikh constable. I all such expenses; and the certificate required perty; and as we have long learned better origines.—The camphor already produced and used are pernicious and in others destructive, its geographical position on the frontier of sent deceased to the Civil Hospital, and he died by that Ordinance shall be signed by the than to suppose that the injury of one class stored in the interior, awaiting a favourable So that there will be on many shipments, from China England is in natural, direct, and easy about 7 p.m. on the same day.

him before to my knowledge. This concluded the evidence. The accused declined to make any statement.

The jury returned a verdiet of manslaughter by different members of the Government as to They constitute our lifeblood; and are the basis possible supply practically unlimited. against the accused.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold curselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.] THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—In every contest the interest of the

struckle is in great degree dependent upon the equality of the combatants; all lively concern ceases where the issue is a foregone conclusion. most seriously threatened, the discussion of this sals, the case would be different; but when it known certainly that the only result of pushing an amondment to division must be defeat, the

oustomary appeal "Perhaps, under the circumstances, and after the explanations which have been given by the Surveyor-General, the honourable member would not wish to press his amendment." The hon, member usually feels it more compatible with his dignity to reply, " No, Sir, only threw it out as a suggestion." The public naturally get wearied of this farce, wanting alike amusement and character. There is something strangely soperific in the atmosphere of the Council Chamber which in its influence on the members contrasts strangely with the militant attitude, and lively watchfulness which distinguish men outside. What is the meaning of all this? Obstruction for obstruction's sake is greatly to be deplored, but a healthy, genuine, and fear-

C. von Boso, J. S. Moses (Directors); A. keepers think them unreasonable they can de-The direct interference with the private rights and liberties of householders is an entirely . Goesmann, St. C. Michaelsen, E. Reuter, different thing. The attempt to regulate the T. I. Rose, E. Georg, E. E. Elias, E. J. Coxon, number of persons inhabiting houses at night by the internal cubical capacity of the same, and The SECRETARY having read the notice con- the grievous penalties which this Bill imposes upon infractions of its rules, are nothing more nor less than class legislation directed against he Chinese in this Colony, by those who have

little or no interest in the multiplication of their numbers, and but little knowledge of their. wishes and their wants Although 300 cubic feet is a large and unnecessary amount of air or space to allowed in hou es which admit every current, yet the number of two and three storied houses in Hongkong which are inhabited by sixty to ninety people respectively must be very small indeed. It may be answered. If such the case where is the hardship of the law? answer that any unnecessary law is a hardship, and especially so to the Chinese. It is hard enough to get them to understand and to co-operate in the enforcement of those laws which are most reasonable and necessary. To obtain their concurrence in that which causes them needless trouble and exposes their houses to invasion and their families to terror and a arm is impossible. The concluding paragraph of clause 71 This section shall apply only to such districts

or portions of districts as may, from time to time, be designated by an order of the Governor in Council". amounts to nothing at all, as no one knows but that the district in which his fuss, I think, from the lack of other letters on water. house is sit unted may be selected first. Moreover | his side, that, to use his own words slightly the Chinese are very much in the babit of inter- altered. "the laws for the proper sanitary preting the term "the Governor in Council" maintenance of common dwelling houses is not to mean, in all matters connected with this Bill, exciting much discussion, as the right of the work. I do not think it necessary to remark the two, or the one man most resolute and in- Government to attach conditions to its leases is fluential in carrying out its provisions, as the undoubted. If lessees think them unreasonable Acting Chief Justice very trubufully put it they can decline their acquisition." The talk in the Council Chamber when describing the about breach of faith seems to me absurd, as the

constitution of the Board. portion between the hours of 9 p.m. and lords as such have therefore no say whatever that such tenement has been let in contravention from his saving that "the attempt to regulate inhabitants at any time assembled in a house be night is nothing more nor less than class of the conditions on which it has been let? sure of 300 cubic feet per adult, I have not in appears to be the explanation of all the opposifrequently found considerably less space than tion. "Caveat" and his friends are very anxious cordingly.

On the proposition of Mr. TRURBURN, se- clause 72 be passed, it would be well to make an pretty sure to get an average amount out of each conded by Mr. Gourdin, Messrs Groteand Von | exception in favour of Government House. householder each and severally liable to the me of the joke perpetrated by a letter writer in pains and penalties following. The poor house your columns a couple of years ago or so: a holder may be in England, or resting in some gentlemen who was building some cheap houses quiet retreat upon the continent, striving to was designated a "Philanthropist." (The forget the troubles of his Chinese houses houses are let at what will cover their cost, The tenant may have gone quietly to bed exclusive of the ground, which bore a very at 9 o'clock, but the Canton night boat exceptionally small proportion, in less than may have arrived in the early morning, and some four years). Perhaps "Cavent" is also a friends have been admitted for shelter from the philanthropist. The Public Health Bill is rain. If it is absolutely necessary that any- not class legislation, as the regulations will body be punished, should not every man—the apply to the houses whether they are inhalast comer for whom no 300 feet is found—be bited by Europeans, Indians, or Chinese. It made to bear his own sin? Or make the whole would rather seem that what is putting your

number answerable if there be too many, but do correspondent out is that he cannot have class not let the number present betaken as a proof that | legislation. He wants his protégés the Chinese the owner has let his house improperly. He has (victims I was going to say, but that term would probably let it for \$20 and it is subsequently re- of course be wrong supposing that your correstailed to bring 830, but that is not his fault. pondent should also be a philanthropist) to be householder and tonant answerable for the crime | do in any country with any pretence to be civiof sleeping in the kitchen. In cold weather the lized. It is not class legislation, although that white cat if she has been shut out of the house will. I am afraid, be a necessity in this Colony usually presents convincing and indubitable testi- for many generations yet. It is misleading to mony in her own person where she has passed the lifesignate this an Anglo-Chinese Colony. The night. So the poor cook's mate working for hi- Chinese came ofter we got possession, and they bits and 50 cents or one dollar per month, will be came on the full understanding that they have

Arthur Scanlan said-I am surgeon of the often glad enough to coil himself, up on a stool as to submit to the laws of the place. Notwith-

terday shall have his 150 cubic feet of space. showed last week that infants in China covered. One hundred and fifty feet of space for the babe of yesterday!" In all the world Wanchai. On the 18th inst., about three minutes | have to be incurred by their parents. The thing | there be in public matters so ready a disposition | cally protested against by all representatives of | foreign trade is done with. Foreigners in China is strained altogether.

> mon lodging houses. The whole of part VIII. to clause 75 can only be justified in the face of a formidable epidemic, and might therefore, if passed at all, not unsuitably come in under part II at sures to become law, to produce much trouble ports:clause 41 which clause might then be omitted. without a certificate by an officer of the Board is | sion.

Clause 76 belongs to the Bye-laws for com-

Esan Singh, gun-lascar Corporal, gave evidence bical capacity clauses. This has caused a very former days; and pours out upon "Cavent's" fit to the merchant for export." serious amount of apprehension amongst our head, as representing the obnoxious class of Consul Warren writes from South Formosa: native friends, at which we cannot be at all sur. landlords in the Colony, all the vials of his - Formerly a very fair trade was done here in making. prised. They prefer Hongkong to their own wrath. country, and also to some foreign lands, where they have been, many of them, located, and the comfort under the courageous onslaughts of of the trade. The camphor is so badly prepared cause of it is that they have had full confidence in the promises held out to them-yes, that is the they are largely increasing (more than doubled loss in weight is excessive, and upless the cost precise term—in the proclamation issued by Com. | during the last five years), and that now almost | price is extremely low, there is little temptation | ed considerable loss to yours, missioner Elliot on the 7th June, 1841. In this the every young man in the Colony is anxious to re- to engage in the business.—The possible supply merchants and traders of Canton were invited to cruit their numbers and partake in their success. is practically unlimited, but the inferior quality Pan Lin, gun-lascar said-I am stationed at resort to and trade at Hongkong, where they They will also be sustained by correctly as compared with Japan camphor, prevents any ference to Chinese customs.

Angus McCorlin, P.S. 30, said-Shortly after on whom the order or notice was made." Why perty in Hongkong.

chai I knew deceased. He was my nephew. He was m secretary." a coolie. I last saw him alive on the morning of Colonial Treasurer of Crown rent. a simple cer. That if the Chinese in this colony are prosperous, the let inst. I identify the body on that of the amount due by the Treasurer forcionors prosperous that is a supple cer. a cooled a last saw nim tuve on the morning of colonial reason of the amount due by the Treasurer foreigners prosper with them; that in material clamation not a single tub of camphor has found measure, irregular makes, inferior atraw, bad It is true the position of England at Bhame the 1st inst. I identify the body as that of my tificate of the amount due by the Treasurer foreigners prosper with them; that in material clamation not a single tub of camphor has found measure, irregular makes, inferior atraw, bad It is true the position of England at Bhame nephew. I do not know how he came by his death. being taken as proof positive of the debt, as well as in higher matters "we are members its way to the port." I do not know the accused. I have never seen thus dispensing with all further evidence, one of another." this form of proceeding for the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money spent by the Board entirely controlly accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese. Will this not money accordant to the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese was accordant to the recovery of the recovery of the multiplication of the Chinese was accordant to the recovery of the recove money spent by the Board entirely contradicts be for his advantage as well as mine? What to the bad market the article in forcer years it seems likely the business, once promising, only part of Yunnan practically accessible by that the inquisitive little pests thrust their noses the avertions roude every round again in Clauseit and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be do without them beauty and again in Clauseit should be done in the contradicts and again and again in Clauseit should be done in the contradicts and again and again in Clauseit should be done in the contradicts and again again again and again ag the assertions made again and again in Council should we do without them here in Hongkong? has found at Hongkong-while he declares the will come to an end-

the mildness of the measure.

the Peace, and that a certificate signed by the number of Chinese bouses built P acceptance of a Bill.

ceeding \$200! or to imprisonment not exceeding exclude his own?—Yours faithfully, three months!"

And pray who is to secure to us a greater portion of discretion on the part of the officers of the Board than that which distinguished Constable Patterson ?: Let us suppose that under clause 20, on reasonable or possibly unreasonable presumption of the existence of a nuisance "an Inspector of nuisances with any assistant or assistants" at eix o'clock in the morning, without any notice, attempts to enter a private house in Gough-street. The lady of the house may have been confined an hour before. The Inspector and his men proceed to ascend the stairs to examine

the "suitably dished and perforated slop stone" (under clause 52) in the kitchen on the second floor. The husband being unable to speak English lifts his arm to bar the way of those who, under the circumstances, he is justified in regarding as intruders-he simply and silently, for want of words, "obstructs" their passage and thus "hinders them in the execution of their duty." It is quite possible to suppose a case of displeasure and quarrel arising out of this simple and justifiable proceeding on the part of the occupant of a house, and he is to be made liable to imprisonment for three months! power of any man to inflict such a punishment persons.

for so venial an offence. It would seem as if a That on the morning of the 25th of August very serious amount of opposition to the Ordin- after midnight there was thick and rainy weabeen framed with the purpose of terrifying the Chinese into submission. I submit that such laws

are not in accordance with the present British spirit shown in dealing with subject races. Clause 85 is conceived in precisely the same tone of adverse threatening. A man may be served with a notice, under clause 21, directing him to removes unisance within 24 hours. Under clause 85 he is liable to a fine of \$25 for every during which such non-compliance shall continue. We should very soon empty the Colonial Treasurer's cheau if we were to inflict a fine of \$25 upon the Government for every day during which nuisances for which they are accountable

remain, when no one else can remove them. Schedule A repeals the whole or parts of the four Ordinances founded upon English Law, and on which the practice here has hitherto been based and "more's the pity." A more arable measure was never introduced into this lawyers, and gentlemen, but they are not to be trusted to legislate for this Anglo-Chinese Colony .- Yours faithfully,

CAVEAT. Hongkong, 1st September, 1887.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH BILL. TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS." SIR,-Although "Caveat" is making a great

lessees bind themselves to submit to all regulations of any number of persons in excess of this pro- whom the fullest powers are reserved. The land-4 a.m. shall be taken as prima facic evidence That "Caveat" is a landlord seems very evident of this section! What proof can the number of the number of persons inhabiting houses at legislation directed against the Chinese in this Although I have never been in any portion of. Colony, by those who have little or no interest a China house which was filled beyond the mea- in the multiplication of their numbers." This this alloted to each individual in the reception to multiply the number of Chinese but not apartments of Government House, and that be- to increase the number of houses; being, like tween the hours of 9 p.m and 4 a.m. Perhaps, if | those who used to run the baracoons at Macao, coolie, and therefore, of course, the more the

Clause 74 again seeks to make the poor allowed to live as no one would be permitted to

BE NOT AFRAID.

Hongkong, 2nd September, 1887.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS." ation should be exposed to searching criticism; foreign trade. and in a place like Hongkong, where all are pre- The question the aforesaid refers to is the soquite possible for unwise and nunecessary mea: | following are extracts from the respective reand dissatisfaction, involving their ultimate re-

coeding one month, for infringement of the cumeasure to the coolie slave dealers of Macao in rate to the producer, and retailing at a fair probe unheard at Peking, either on account of the River is utterly useless, and cannot be improved by

"Be Not Afraid's " opprobrium involves, and also market at present for Formosa camphor.—In kindly words are not deserved by them.

I trust that the fullest provision will be made future rest. But, says "Be Not Afraid," speakor appeal not to the Board, but from the Board, inc of the landlords, "they don't, want more remanerative quantities could be obtained and out of condition, when the board are remained as a dangerous that the business same to a standatill simply be and saleable at good prices, has also degrees. The dighteen to twenty days along a very difficult that the business same to a standatill simply be and saleable at good prices, has also degrees. They are a land saleable at good for appeal not to the Board, but from the Board, inc of the landlords, "they don't, want more cause no remunerative quantities could be obtaineither to the Courts or, in the first place, to a houses to be built." By whom then, pray, if not | ed at one time and abone place, and thinks it to Magistrate associated with unofficial Justices of by these very men, is the annually increasing be the probable interest of all concerned that the Secretary of the Board will not be allowed! We praise the energy and enterprise of those their protection (?) as a Government monopoly. Shanghai must be losing on their shipments. against a man a strength quite equal to his own who bring steam lines to our island, and who I fully agree with what Consul Warron writes

encourage manufactures in our midet. Have we and do not share at all the opinion of Consul hinders any member or officer of the Board in upon it which repay their cost in four years, as the trade to a stop, but it was the losses pro- this port is going to the dogs. powers imposed or conferred upon him by this "philanthropist?" Is there any law that in his the low prices ruling on the Hongkong market, plies to the business in skins, hair, etc.

CAVEAT. Hongkong, 3rd September, 1887.

TOTAL LOSS OF THE CHINA NAVI GATION COMPANY'S STEAMER " TIENTSIN."

FINDING OF THE COURT OF INQUIRY. A Naval Court of Inquiry to investigate the ironmstances attending the less of the C. N Co.'s steemer Tientsin on Rees Island on the 24th August, was held at the British Consulate. Amoy, on the Soth August. The Court was composed of Mr. C. F. R. Allen, H.B.M.'s Consul, President, and Messrs. W. A. Gulland (Master, steamer Claymore), J. S. Rosch (Master, steamer Fokien), and T. P. Hall (Master, steamer Formusa) assessors.

The following is the finding of the Court:-It appears from the evidence given before this Court that the Tientsin sailed from Swatow on the 24th August, bound for Shanghai, with a cargo of sugar and sundries, and a crew, 31 hands all told, and passengers and compradore's or a fine of \$200! It is wrong to put it into the staff, bringing up the total of all on board to 70

> was, ran on Rees Island where she became a does not matter, we have only to deal with the was not until a large part of the market was penetrate to Yunnan it will doubtless be with a The Court having regard to the above cir enmstances find as follows :— . After taking the departure from the Lammoci Island Light bearing South 1 West distant 4

miles, a course North East correct Magnetic was steered till I a.m. on the 25th, when it was altered to North East 3 East, correct Magnetic, but a strong current and South East swell set her towards the land and caused her to run on Rees Island, which, owing to the rainy and dark night, was not sighted in time to prevent the accident. That the Master went below at 10.3) p.m. on thick as to render it necessary for the Master to romain on deck. That between 11 p.m. and 1.30 a.m. heavy rain came on, but up to 12 p.m the bitrary, oppressive, cumbersome, and impractic- Chief Officer did not think it necessary to call the Master. That at midnight the 2nd Officer colony. Its authors may be very elever and took charge of the watch and received orders accomplished engineers, physicians, soldiers, from the Chief Officer to keep the course N.E. IN or N.E. Cor. Mag., and to steer that fill 1 am. That at 0.40 a.m. the 2nd Officer went to call the Captain, who answered him but did not come on deck. That the 2nd Officer at 1 a.m. changed the course to N.E. 3 E. Cor. Mag. That at 1.30 a.m. the Tientsin struck on Rees! Island, where she remained fast, with the seal breaking over her, her bottom pierced in many

That some of the Chinese on board made an attempt to lower a boat without orders, but through an accident to one of the tackle, one end of the boat fell in the water immersing appliances, etc., and had everything arranged for some of those on board, one of whom, the Steward, Sze Apao, was drowned. The rest were hauled on board the ship. That in the landed on the island, and that there was no Clause 72 seeks to declare that the presence to be subsequently made by the Government, by further loss of life. That the crew and passengers which time it was seen that the Tientein was a total loss, the entire ship being under the

places by the rocks whereby she became full of

water at high tide. This Court is therefore of opinion that the master (Cuthbert Hodgson) was justified going below when he did, but the Court consider that he is to be consured for not giving orders to be called when the course was to be changed, and this Court consures him ac-

This Court is further of opinion that on this this case contribute to the loss of the vessel. That we are of opinion that it would have been Bose were unanimously re-elected on the board of Clause 73 makes not only the tenant but the merrier. Something in this connection reminds wiser for Harry Deans, the chief officer, to have sight of it.

That the 2nd mate, John Cannon, is to be gravely censured for not taking measures to see that the master was properly aroused when the weather continued thick with rain, and we censure him accordingly. That we see no reason to find any fault with

the Engineers of the steamer Tientsin on this That the death of the Steward was not owing to any fault of the officers. That the conduct of the Master, Officers and Engineers after the ship struck was worthy of That the native fishermen, at Rees Island, be-

haved with great humanity to the shipwrecked The costs of the Court amounting in all to \$60.53, be borne as follows: \$10.23 by the owners of the steamer Tientain, and of the remainder \$25.15 by the master and \$25.15 by the owners.

LIU MING-CHUAN AND THE CAM PHOR TRADE.

The following letter appears in the N. Doilu News :-

The London and China Express of the 6th and 27th May has brought copies of the reports of the British Consuls on the trade of Tamsui and working with probable advantage to all con-Sir,-Those who devote their time to public Taiwan Fu during the past year, which although cerned. matters in this Colony, whether as members of perhaps of little interest to residents at other the Legislative Council or in the more humble ports in China deal with a question which in its cording to treaty open to foreign trade is in my capacities, if they are wise, do not seek their re- ultimate consequences may prove to be of the opinion nothing but a breach of treaty, and a ward in the grateful acknowledgments of the greatest importance to foreign trade at all treaty beginning of the end of foreign trade in treaty community. In private life we receive profest ports. To my regret I see a British Consul sions of solicitude for our well being with cour- sanctioning a measure of the Chinese officials, tesy at least, although we may not attach to which in my eyes is nothing but a gross breach them the highest import. Why, then, should of treaty and which, instead of being energetito impute to others selfish and unworthy motives? foreign interests, from its beginning has been trying to leave the ordinary course of business. Courrier d'Haiphong of the 28th August:— It is on all accounts desirable that new legis- allowed to be carried out to the detriment of or to open new channels to trade are stopped

occupied, and leisure is almost unknown. it is called Camphor Monopoly in Formesa, and the

Consul Giles at Tamsui writes:- "The almost Clause 77.—The stipulation contained in this peal, and all this for want of the wholesome sift- extinct campbor trade has recently been taken clause that no one shall let a domestic building ing afforded by independent and genuine discus- under the protection of the authorities as a Government monopoly, with probable advantage to Your correspondent "Be Not Afraid" appears | all concerned. For whereas it has of late years deceased very violently. Deceased was standing as well attempt to make a law that no man shall to disapprove of this ventilation of a most imhire a house until he has paid the rent for the portant subject, and would silence the opposition | ative quantities at one time and in one place, the by the imputation of the most selfish and un- Government now undertakes to collect at fixed Clause 78 threatens imprisonment, not ex- worthy motives, comparing the opponents of this depôts the scattered supplies, paying at a certain

> camphor, but of late years the export has almost These unfortunate gentlemen may find some entirely ceased in consequence of the risky nature phor has had the effect of collecting the scatter-"Be Not Afraid" in the consideration that and is adulterated to such an extent, that the kindly words are not deserved by them.
>
> Some of those by whom the most objections of this Bill have been effectually opposed are men who have vary little fixed.
>
> 1885 a fereign firm here made an attempt to through the districts in which cassia anise, and many on the will tap the gold, silver, and coppor mines, pass these lingering embers. The hotel with fittings, otc., was covered by insurance to the extent of valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen.
>
> The mail of the 15th July from London just valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. When the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The hotel with fittings, otc., was covered by insurance to the extent of with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The mail of the 15th July from London just valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The mail of the 15th July from London just valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The mail of the 15th July from London just valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The mail of the 15th July from London just valuable dyes are grown, and establish connection with the great baying and selling markets of Szechaen. The hotel with fittings, otc., was covered by insurance to the extent of the provided prov for the use and at the requirement of the person posed are men who have very little fixed prosome profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid, camels' and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid, camels' and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid, camels' and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
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> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid, camels' and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
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> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-insure for a larger sum,
> some profit, In May, 1886, however, a proclamsstrawbraid and sheep's wool, hides, horse in Britain's new Burmese possessions, viz., the erist She had intended to re-in posed the Bill, because they saw that its protein which was abolished in 1868, had been revived in section of our possibility and possible of our possible of our possibility and possible of our possible our possible our po must be for the benefit of another, it was opportunity for sending it down to the port for Shanghai especially—as all the cargo rejected communication with the richest provinces of the This short Ordinance of 1875 was passed sole. not far to seek the truth that we are all shipment was seized by the Chinese authorities here finds a market there—a total loss. What great empire of China, Yuunan and Szechuen.

> > "Be Not Afraid" sneers at my desiderating the campbor trade to the bad quality of the For- as all shipments from China are now—and justly ing easy, and it appears to us that our contemple gentleman being confined to bed from a species to my desiderating the campbor trade to the bad quality of the For- as all shipments from China are now—and justly ing easy, and it appears to us that our contemple gentleman being confined to bed from a species.

Chinese authorities have taken this article under

Ordinance shall be liable to a penalty not ex- desire to promote the general good he should which made them give up an unremunerative

of treaty on the part of Chinese officials, where hai?

empty pockets again. Moreover this very quest up the business.—Chinese Times. tion has been decided already in 1868 when the

and loss to foreing trade. ce had been expected, and that this clause had ther, and the steamer, not being on the course perhaps only a few people in China, but whether expect it, have had more experience in the made; and our contemporaries must admit that the steamer, not being on the course perhaps only a few people in China, but whether expect it, have had more experience in the made; and our contemporaries must admit that the produce is called camphor or anything else, business than their colleagues in Tientsin. It it will penetrate to a part of Yunnan. But if it. question whether Chinese officials are allowed shifted to Tientsin that the gross adulterations commercial object: it will not be made blindly. to monopolise Chinese produce which, according now practised become common. Not doubt, cargo but will be directed by preference to the proto treaty (and in this case to former decision) is which is found unsaleable in the North is sent ductive districts. open to foreign trade, and the fact that the for- on here as a last resource; but it is equally Let us examine if Tonquin is as far from the eign ministers at Peking have thus far not been unsaleable here until it has been garbled and rich portions of Yunnan and Szechnen as able to put a stop to such a gross breach of treaty cleaned, bayers here being just as well able to Burmah itself. From Lao kai to Yunnan-son shows to what extent foreigners are left to the take care of themselves in this respect as buyers the journey occupies 16 days and lies along a

mercy of Chinese officials. What an outery would be raised in case a proclamation should be issued one day at Foochow Shanghai, or Hankow declaring tea a monopoly of the Government and restricting foreigners to buy from so-called Government offices! Indigthe 24th at which time the weather was not so mation meetings would be held. Chambers of Commerce would assemble to protest against such a breach of treaty, the foreign mini-ters at Peking who could not or did not oblige the Chinese authorities to abandon the monopoly at once. would run the risk of being attacked by acrowd of excited testotallers. Nothing of the sort here, as it is only camphor the measure is probably to the advantage of all concerned. In 1885 I brught a lot of about 400 piculs of Camphor which had been held for an improvement in prices for about four years (which is a proof that the falling off of the Camphor trade may be attributed to the low prices realised at Hongkong), and I did not meet with any difficulties on the part of Chinese officials in bringing the cargo down to Taiwaufoo for shipment to Hongkong. The better position of the article on the Home markets having induced me to take up the article again. I engaged people in the interior to boil for me and went into a good deal of expense for all necessary a regular business with a certain monthly supply. Rumours having reached me that there might be some difficulty in carrying out the business. morning the crew and passengers were safely I inquired of the Chinese authorities here, whether there were any obstacles in the way or not, and received their answer "that after were taken away by the steamer Hoihew, at payment of lekin or transit dues" no difficulties would be made by the Chinese authorities, and nothing at all was mentioned of monopoly. few hundred piculs having been produced and stored at a place in the country (where twenty years ago foreigners used to go unmolested to for conveying the let down to the coast for

further shipment to Taiwanfoo. A small lot which was carried down to the coast first was soized by a mandarin who pretended to have the sole right of producing camphor in that district, and two of our employés were caught, ill-treated,

fictitions charges.

Not withstanding the earnest endeavours on the part of the Consul to persuade the Chinese withdraw the monopoly granted to the said mandarin, nothing was done, but a second transit pass was granted and another trial to bring some camphor down was made, with the same result; it was seized by a mandarin on the same spot as the former lot. Again the attention of the local Chinese authorities was drawn to the gross breach of treaty committed by their subordinates, and although they did not dispute the illegality of the monopoly, nothing was done to abandon it on the contrary, on the 24th December, 1886, my place in the interior, where the camphor was collected and stored, was broken into at night by a party of soldiers led by a mandarin and the

opium, and all belongings of my-employes were | ful, to say nothing about the extra number of seized, or, to speak more correctly, were stolen. No official notice of the monopoly was given and my camphor was in each case covered by a ! transit pass, and the Chinese officials had no

Chinese commenced thinking of taking up the "protection" of this trade, but when the Hougkong market improved, and after I had closed extensive contracts at a fair profit, they declared a monopoly and I was left in the cold, unable to carry out contracts, unable to get back my stolen obtain any compensation for the losses sustained.

Any Government monopoly of any article soports. If any Chinese official is allowed to monopolise such articles of trade at any time he may be in want of momey, we shall soon see a repetition of this little game at other ports. and right and left by the treaties, but of late such treaties seem not to exist for mandarins, who an extra export duty within the limits of the may be permitted to reproduce the most importtreaty port, on the way down from the foreign ant passage:godown to the Custom-house, is another advantage trade here is enjoying, and retwithstanding all protests and claims and exertions on the part of our Consul here, no progress is percepti- be opened as far as Szechuen, which is the richest and this illegal tax or to have their produce seized. foreign trade, and our prayers for relief seem to | fiscal regulations become more reasonable. The Red

Doubtless the Government monopoly of camed supplies, but I would wish that my camphor had been spared such collection, and though it

A VICTIM TO MONOPOLY. Tajwanfu. 20th July.

dyes, mixture of inferior bundles with the better places it in direct communication with Yun. in the Vicercy's hospital of abscess in the face Consul-Warren-attributes the falling off of kinds, the Tieutein trade is in a bad way, and man, but that communication is far from be. from this cause; and another case of a European

he should have protested against it with all his | For the malpractices of the trade the foreign

same measures had been taken by the Chinese | The Daily News says :- There is without authorities, who were compelled by the foreign doubt a great deal of truth in the Chinese Times' Ministers at Peking to abandon them on the strictures on the condition in which produce is the extreme point of English occupation, and ground of " being against the treaty." Since brought to market from the interior in Tientsin; that those of Szechnen are still more so. . that time business has been done by foreigners it is certain that false-packing has increased without any interference on the part of Chinese sucremously of late years, and has now reached by our contemporaries. We do not pretend that officials, but came to a standstill again when a scandalous height. But when that paper goes large steamers can ascend it, but one of our prices at Hongkong did not cover cost of pro- on to aver that Tientsin merchants are too countrymen has obtained the towage concession duction. What Consul Giles calls "with pro- clever to be taken in by these frauds, while they for the river, and it is to be hoped that in a short. bable advantage to all concerned," means simply are swallowed by the more ignorant merchants time the boats of the company that is to be found. with sole advantage to the Chinese authorities of Shanghai, it goes too far. As a matter of led will tow up to Lac-kai large junks carrying imfact, Shanghai was the original market for ports. The Hanoi-Lao-kai railway is not a dream; Camphor may be an article which interests | Tientsin produce, and the morchants here who it is being periously considered and will be in the North.

THE CHENGTU ARSENAL. A correspondent of the Shanghai Mercury | Ling-man, 10 days, are also very rich. Horses, gives the following account of the Changtu (Szechuen) Arsenal:-One of the principal objects | bers ; while potatoes, fruits such as pears apples, of interest to a foreigner is the Arsenal establish- | walnuts, chestnuts, etc.; and whea!, barley, maize, ed by the late Viceroy. There is no foreigner loats, and buckwheat are very abundant. A good employed at all. The grounds are spacious and horse—and the size is passable—is sold for 120 the buildings are two-storied, semi-foreign in to 160 france; an ox for 30 to 60 france, a sheep style and are fairly well built. But everywhere for 6 to 8 francs. A picul of rice of 1,200 the absence of a master hand is apparent even to Chinese pounds is worth about 12 taels. The an amateur. A portion of the machinery is price of wheat is slightly lower than that of rice. driven by an under-shot water-wheel of small and the price of barley and outs is about 33 per diameter, very badly arranged, not producing cent below that of wheat. These various promore than half the power that might be obtained from that source. The general working manager is a native of Hunan, said to possess considerable natural ability, but who has never served any time at the business. The man in charge of the | Lac-kai. In the districts of Ku-chin and Tongmachinery is a Nanking man who served an apprenticeship in the Shanghai Arsenalaud possesses been said about the mines of Yunnan. Are only a limited knowledge of the business: The not these mines at the door of Tonquin? Tongmachinery is, as only could be expected, very badly used up, some very expansive pieces not in use i so badly rusted that it would be scarcely possible | silver : these places are all much nearer to Lae-kai to perform any work with them. There are two than to Bhame, and can be reached much more steam-engines also in use, one a stationary engine | easily from the former than the latter. Is it of about twenty h.p., the other a portable one necessary to mention the iron mines found in of somewhat smaller dimensions, mounted on the mountains which separate the Red River wheels. The bearings of the line shafting are valley from that of the Blue River? These are too far apart, consequently the shafting swings also not far distant from Tonquin, a journey of ten up and down. A number of the pulleys have or twenty days at most. Kweichow is also a rich been changed, the original ones being replaced province, very rich for the Chinese empire, and by those made in the shop attached to the arsenal. and it is plain to see that they have not been ac- province of Szchaen, we freely admit that it is curately bored from the way in which they wobble. The driving belt has to be kept in place but from Bhamo to Szechnen the distance is buy their camphor). I took out a transit pass by guides, otherwise it would not remain on at still greater and the roads more dangerous. all. The cartridge factory was in full swing, turn- Kwang-si is poor, according to our contempoing outcartridges for breech-leading small arms. Faries. Such as it is, would they not be glad to I was struck by the worn appearance of the dies, see England in possession of a long strutch of which seem never to have been changed, and I frontier like ours conterminous with this poor think it likely that when these cartridges come province and with the right of tree entry? to be used they will be found just a trifle too patent log, but the absence of the log did not in and kept in gael for about six months under large to go into the rifle barrel. I do not think Nan-ning-fu, and these cannot but develop there is a pound of cotton-wasts in the whole | with peace assured. place, and cleaning and polishing is a thing that | It is clearly established, then, that Tonquin is seems never to be thought of. Certain it is that, nearer than Burmah to the commercial centres anthorities to release the campbor seized and to it is never done; and upon the whole it would be of Yunnan and Szechuen, that it can readily build a difficult matter to find a worse abused and dir- up relations with rich and productive regions tier lot of machinery than that possessed by the where a large import and export business will Chengta Arsenal, though originally of superior certainly be established, while the English, to make. The manager and several of the employers | reach them from Burmah, will have to overcome

strange to a foreigner to see thirty forges at self for not having occupied Tonquia. work and each fire being blown by a separate Chinese bellows. In answer to my inquiries about blowing the fires with the blower, they gave the reply that fires were more under conwhole stock of camphor together with money, trol with the hand-bellows, which is very doubtmen required to perform the work. But the addition of a few dozen men more or less is a mat-

> A FRENOR VIEW OF THE COMPETI-TION FOR THE YUNNAN TRADE.

quantities of gunpowder.

We translate the following article from the The Hongkong Daily Press, the China Mail, and the North China Daily News have all reproduced an article from the Chinese Times.

England has by far the best natural and geogra-

phical position for taking hold of the frontier trade

ble yet, and foreigners are either obliged to pay most productive province of the Chinese Empire. France has made her frontier treaty. Kwangsi is way that will extend to India on one side, by crossing the Brahmaputra, and on the other will connect Man. dalay, Moulmein, and Rangoon. A short length will building charred timbers began to glow and carry it to Momein, the true entrance of the trade flames and sparks to fly up. A manual engine caravan route for Yunnan and Szechuen. This trade was summoned, however, and soon extinguished

In the first place our contemporaries say that by The hide husiness, which ought to be good, Sy-tso of which the capital is Teli-fu. Now which they carry without intending it to the on which all our calculations of successes in the Consul Giles, on the other hand, is of opinion seeing that leather is scarce, always in demand, from Bhamo to Tali-fu is a land journey of from skin of their next violin.

digiteen to twenty days along a very quence are in disrepute. The prices given are, the pack maies can only curry a bull load of 60 very low, and exporters from Tientsin and to 90 catting. Basides this the country through which a large part of the road passes is occupied Camels' and sheep's wool from North China by a savage and predatory per dation very are also, in disrepute. Secreely any week comes dangerous to the caravans. If Sv-tro is here for sale that is not weighted with sand and rich in different products. if mules, sheep, actor of this Bill finds its fitting climax in clause their cares and anxieties. Supposing a man does It was not the impossibility of obtaining dirt to the extent of 33 per cent. A fine trade modicinal plants, etc., are found there in 81-" Whoever assaults, obstructs, molests, or get a piece of cheap grand and builds houses Camphor in sufficient quantities which brought | that would be sufficient if developed to sustain | abundance, it is incontestable that Tali-fu is far the execution of the duties or exercise of the "Be Not Afraid" charges, cannot be be a ducers and shippers sustained on account of The same story of degeneration and fraud ap- markets of Vunnun-sen. Ku-chin, Tong-chuen, It seems to us, as impartial critics, that the lang, and Yuan-chiang, towns situated in plains stories of demoralisation amongst the native tra- | very rich in all sorts of produce, on I which are in-Consul Giles writes:-"The almost extinct ders here do not speak well for foreigners them- accessible to England on account of the distance camphor trade has recently been taken under the selves. How is it that the rescally practices of and the difficulty of the reads. The nearest protection of the Authorities as a Government the native dealers have been suffered to attain great market to Tali-fu is Yumann-sea. Now monopoly with probable advantage to all con- to such proportions? How is it that froudulent Yunnan-sen is 13 days' distance from Tali-fu and corned." This means in other words, that the straw braid, rotten hides, sanded wood, damaged consequently 33 to 35 days from Bhame. British Consul openly agrees to a gross breach skins, find a market here, or if not here, in Shang. A journey of 33 to 35 days under the conditions stated above hardly answers the description of natural, direct, and easy communication. If merchants cannot wholly escape from blame. If | Yunnan is difficult of access from Burmah, Sz-In none of the treaties between any foreign they resolutely rejected fraudulent cargo the national character is still more so. It is sufficient to look power and China is camphor mentioned as either tives would generally understand the necessity at a map to see this. It would be necessary to contraband or a Government monopoly, and no of more honest dealing. If the foreigners cast traverse the whole extent of Yappan to reach Sz-Chinese official has the right at any time he may back strawbraid bundles with short measures, chuen from Burmah. From Yunnan sen to the be short of money to monopolise such article as mixed qualities and bad condition, the natives capital of Szechnen. Changking, is a journey of 31 may afford him the best chance of filling his would be obliged to provide good cargo or give days, which, added to the distance from Bhamo to Yunnan-son, makes fully 60 to 65 days. Is a journey of 60 to 65 days a small matter? It is conclusively established, then, that the great markets of Yunnan are far distant from Bhamo.

The Red River is treated very contemptuously

road relatively good. The town of Yunnansen, situated in a magnificent plain and in the midst of a very productive region, is a centre of trade of every description. The immence plains of Ka-tsin, 15 days from Lao-kai, and cattle, and sheep are found there in great numducts are of sufficiently low price to admit of their importation into Tonquin on favourable terms. The best tea of Yunnan and of China is grown at Pao-oul and Ta-ling, a very short distance from chuen hot mineral springs are found. Much has chuen for copper and brass. Kou-chao for tin. zine, and argentiferons galena, and Chao-tong for it likewise is not far from Tonquin. As to the far enough away from Lac-kai and from us. Mon-kay already has extensive relations with

were very obliging in showing us over the works, all the difficulties resulting from distance and and explaining matters. In the blacksmith- the bed condition of the road- If our contemshop there appeared to be some very expert poraries write disdainfully of Tonquin, it is beworkmen making rifled gun-barrels, the work cause they do not possess it, it is because " they being done neatly and quickly, but it looked me too green." England will never console her-

> DESTRUCTION OF A YOKOHAMA HOYEL BY FIRE. .

The Japan Mail says: -On the evening of the ter of no consequence in a Chinese Government 24th August the premises No. 87, at the corner arsenal. There are four hundred hands employed, of Main Street and Awa-cho, known as Haefker's right to seize goods under the mere pretext of a and they turn out about one hundred muskets a Hotel, were almost entirely destroyed by fire. monopoly. My contracts were closed long before month, besides cartridges, the daily make of During the day gas had been detected leaking which I was unable to find out. Three kinds of from a pipe in the upper story of the house, and small arms are made in about equal proportions. a workman was called in order to stop the leak. viz. : the old percussion smooth-bore musket, the | who after some time reported the job as all right. Prussian needle-gun, and what I took to be the While the inmates of the hotel were finishing Hotchkiss breech-loader. One would have dinner a little half-past seven o'clock, the alarm thought that the old smooth-bore musket as an was given, and it was found that the wall in a camphor and other goods, and thus far unable to implement of war was a thing of the past, but corner of the upper story hall-way where such does not seem to be the idea of the Chinese the leak had existed was in flames, which and this is what is called the new system is officers at any rate. They have a powder-mill rapidly extended to the roof. The outbreak outside of the South Gate, some distance away took place immediately in the neighbourhood from the city, modelled after the one near of the only stairs in the house, an outside flight, Shanghai, and are turning out considerable and a very short time it became impossible to descend, the hall-way being impassable, while portions of the roof were constantly falling on the stairs. Connected with the main building by a covered passage way was a block, the upper story of which was used as bed rooms, while the lower portion comprised the dining-room and kitchen. After the flames got fairly hold and it became evident from the direction of the wind that they must spread over the main premises, the chief efforts of those assisting at the fire were directed towards preventing the destruction of this isolated building, which fortunately was simply do what they like, and lekin charged as published a translation on the 14th August, but saved from the flames. Very few articles could be saved from the upper story of the hotel before the stairs became impassable, and these consisted chiefly of effects of some of the boarders. The flames soon extended towards the front of the with China, by which, in due time, a trade route may hotel on Main Street, and by the time the firemen arrived had got a strong hold on the whole upper flat. After rather a long interval the engines appeared, and were set to work. His megal tax or to have their produce seized.

Such is life in this port, where everything has Any trade of importance with Kwangsi will be done plenty of water being obtained from the Crock, been done during the past twelve months to ruin through the sea-port of Pakhoi, provided the Chinese from which the "Victoria" and "Rollef" pumped each through double hose, and from other sources in the vicinity of the hotel, which great distance, or on account of the noise the proposed railways, unsold guns and rifles, etc., are part of Yunnan. A trade will arise, worthy perhaps of development, but the parts of Yunnan ing the lower part of the house, which was, accessible to France are neither fortile, nor popur however, filled by débris from above. An lous, nor in any sense valuable, besides being American billiard table, the bar, and some has the noble river Irawaddy. Steamers 300 feet other fittings were removed in time. By ten long and drawing 8 feet of water can ascend it o'clock it was believed that all danger of the may have benefited some concerned, it has caus- from Rangoon as far as Bhamo, traversing all the way fire spreading was past, and the firemen shortly a most rich, fairly populous, and not sickly country. left. About half-past eleven, however, a fresh In a few years there will meet at Bhame a line of rail ontbreak occurred, and soon the front verandah

> the occurrence. The debrie salved from the fire was sold at public anction on the 27th ult. and realised the

sum of \$230.

The sting of the mosquito (says the Chinese Times) is not quite such a harmless irritant as